

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY
EVANSTON, ILLINOIS

THE COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

May 29, 1953

Dear Josh,

Thanks for the suggestion. We did do experiments along that line after the paper was published but have not reported them.

We fed either the wild type or the agglless variant on *Serratia marcescens*. Since the pigment is indigestible, the myxamoebae stain red. We also used Nile blue sulfate directly on the amoebae. The result is that the mixed pseudo-plasmodium and the resultant fruiting show conclusively that aggregateless cells are present.

We have made mixtures between aggregateless stocks and a wild type variety which cannot grow on *A. aerogenes* but only on *E. coli*. The resultant spores were plated on both bacteria and it was found that only plaques of the original wild type phenotype appeared. That is, fruiters capable of growth only on *E. coli*. From rough comparisons of plaque count vs. direct spore count it appears the agglless cells can form spores but these are not viable. The pigment experiments indicate that they also produce stem and basal disk cells.

Spore platings from synergistic fruitings by mixtures of other morphogenetically deficient stocks show that agg-53 is an exception in its inability to form viable spores.

We shall certainly come up to Madison this summer. We are shortly to move into a house rented from the University. It is a truly fabulous estate with 14 rooms, 2 baths, 3 fireplaces, 2 butlers pantries which we pay for by renting rooms to students. This pays our rent and leaves us with enough room to entertain the Society of American Bacteriologists for the weekend. If you would like to rattle around in it with us we would be more than delighted to have you.

Maurice S.